

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00657 110829Z

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /021 W

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R 100423Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1205

INFO CDRAMC ALEX VA//AMCIL-O/MA

SECDEF WASHDC//OSD:ISA/DSAA

DA WASHDC/DALO-ILM

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY//ECJ4/7-SAME

CDRMICOM REDSTONE ARSENAL AL//AMSMI-SBA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 657

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, US, MU

SUBJECT: TOW MISSILE SUPPORT: MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

REF: CDRAMC ALEX VA//AMCIL-O/MA DTG 281928Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY IN RECEIPT OF MAY 29 LETTER FROM DEFENSE DEPARTMENT IN WHICH SAF, INTER ALIA, REQUESTS INFORMATION RE "COST OF FIELD TEST EQUIPMENT" FOR TOW. SUBJECT RAISED BY CHARGE IN CONVERSATION WITH CSAF JUNE 5; FRANK RESPONSE IS THAT SAF STILL UNDECIDED RE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT OUTLINED IN REFTTEL, HENCE DELAY IN ACTING ON LOA WHICH WAS FORWARDED UNDER COVER OF EMBASSY LETTER DATED APRIL 2. SAF MISGIVINGS RELATE PRIMARILY TO WHAT THEY PERCEIVE TO BE UNACCEPTABLY LONG TURN-AROUND TIME FOR ANY ITEM WHICH MIGHT HAVE TO BE SENT TO U.S. FOR SERVICING. THIS CONCLUSION BOLSTERED, IN THEIR EYES,

BY FACT THAT FOUR MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE TOW ARRIVED IN COUNTRY, AND THOSE ITEMS INITIALLY FOUND TO BE DEFECTIVE NOT YET REPLACED.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: ALTHOUGH TERM "FIELD REPAIR TEST EQUIPMENT" SEEMS TO US TO BE RATHER GENERAL CATEGORIZATION OF WHAT MIGHT BE NEEDED SHOULD SAF OPT TO MAINTAIN LOCALLY, REQUEST ANY COST INFORMATION THAT CAN BE DEVELOPED. SAF OFFICIALS

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PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00657 110829Z

REALIZE THAT STATESIDE TRAINING WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR

TECHNICIANS WHO EVENTUALLY MIGHT WORK ON MISSILES HERE. INFORMATION RELATIVE TO FEASIBLE, SUITABLE TRAINING ALSO WILL BE REQUIRED AT SOME POINT, AND WOULD BE USEFUL IN HELPING SAF DECIDE ON HOW TO PROCEED ON QUESTION OF MAINTENANCE. OBVIOUSLY, PARTS WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE PROCURED FROM U.S., ALTHOUGH SOME SPARES MIGHT BE STOCKPILED LOCALLY.

3. COMMENT: SAF HAS NOT FORECLOSED SUGGESTION THAT TOW MAINTENANCE SUPPORT BE PERFORMED IN U.S. HOWEVER, UNLESS THEY CAN ANTICIPATE MORE TIMELY SERVICE OF THEIR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND, SPECIFICALLY, REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE UNITS, THEY WELL MIGHT GO FOR SELF-SERVICING OF SYSTEM. INCIDENTALLY, MAINTENANCE MANUALS REQUESTED IN MUSCAT'S 135 NOT RECEIVED; PLEASE ADVISE IF THESE WILL BE RELEASED FOR OMANI USE AND WHEN WE MIGHT EXPECT TO RECEIVE THEM.
ZWEIFEL

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